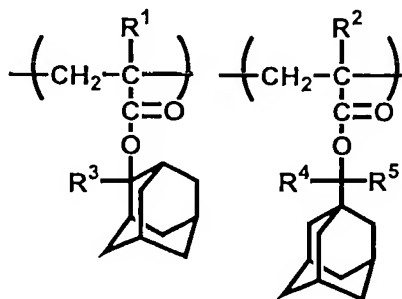


What is claimed is:

1. A chemical amplification type positive resist composition comprising:

(A) a resin which itself is insoluble or poorly soluble in an alkali aqueous solution but becomes soluble in an alkali aqueous solution by the action of an acid, and which contains a structural unit derived from p-hydroxystyrene and a structural unit represented by the formula (Ia) or (Ib)



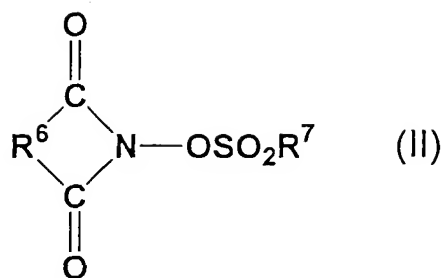
(Ia)

(Ib)

wherein  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  each independently represents hydrogen or methyl, and  $\text{R}^3$  to  $\text{R}^5$  each independently represents alkyl having 1 to 8 carbon atoms; and

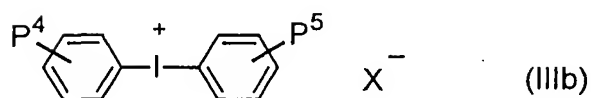
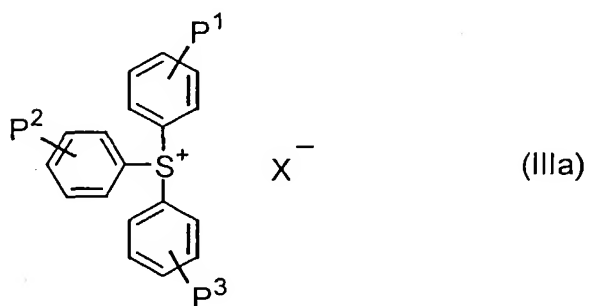
(B) radiation-sensitive acid generator comprising sulfonic acid ester of N-hydroxyimide compound; and onium salt.

2. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said sulfonic acid ester of N-hydroxyimide compound is a compound represented by the formula (II):



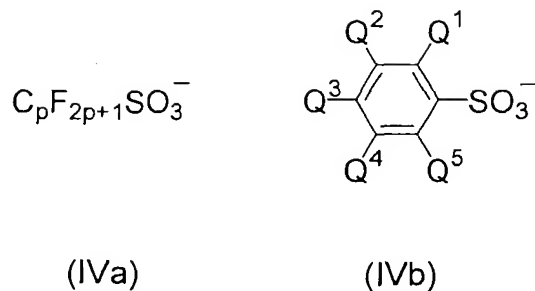
wherein  $\text{R}^6$  represents arylene which may be substituted, alkylene which may be substituted or alkenylene which may be substituted, and  $\text{R}^7$  represents alkyl which may be substituted or aryl which may be substituted.

3. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said onium salt is a salt represented by the formula (IIIa) or (IIIb):

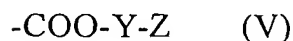


wherein  $\text{P}^1$  to  $\text{P}^5$  each independently represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or alkoxy having 1 to 6 carbon atoms,  $\text{X}^-$  represents a counter ion.

4. The composition according to Claim 3, wherein said counter ion  $\text{X}^-$  is an ion represented by the following formula (IVa) or (IVb):



wherein  $p$  represents an integer of 1 to 8, and  $Q^1$  to  $Q^5$  each independently represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, perfluoroalkyl having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, alkoxy having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, electron-withdrawing group, or a group represented by the formula (V):



wherein  $\text{Y}$  represents alkylene having 1 to 16 carbon atoms in which  $-\text{CH}_2-$  other than that binding to the adjacent  $-\text{COO}-$  group may be substituted by  $-\text{S}-$  or  $-\text{O}-$ , and  $\text{Z}$  represents hydrogen or alicyclic hydrocarbon having 3 to 20 carbon atoms.

5. The composition according to Claim 3, wherein a weight ratio of the sulfonic acid ester of N-hydroxyimide compound represented by the formula (II) to the total onium salt of the formula (IIIa) and the formula (IIIb) is 9:1 to 1:9.
6. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the radiation-sensitive acid generator (B) is contained at 0.3 to 50 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the resin (A).
7. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein a nitrogen-containing basic organic compound is further contained as a quencher.